

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10 and 12 are the independent claims. By this Amendment, claims 1-6, 10 and 12 are amended. No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-6 and 8-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,289,261 to Heidel et al. (Heidel) in view of US Patent 5,615,625 to Cassidy et al. (Cassidy). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Heidel relates to a gaming machine 14 that dispenses paper tokens 12 (paper money). The gaming machine 14 has a housing 20 in which a cassette 18 is contained. The cassette 18 includes a hopper 16 in which the paper tokens are installed for payout to a winning player. The housing also includes a frame that includes a power supply, control electronics and connecting cables (col. 6, lines 49-57).

Cassidy relates to a system for the secure transportation of checks and bank notes from a business 10 to a bank 12. The system includes a container 20 which docks with a docking station 18. A cassette 18 is inserted into a tray 36 in the docking station 18 after the container 20 is docked with the docking station 18. A battery in the container controls a motorized locking mechanism in the container to open sliding doors 42, 44 to allow money from the cassette 38 to be received in the container 20.

It is admitted in the Office Action that Heidel fails to disclose or suggest a rechargeable voltage source in a replaceable cashbox. In an effort to overcome the admitted deficiency, it is alleged that one of ordinary skill in the art would have modified Heidel according to the teachings of Cassidy alleging that the battery in the container 20 corresponds to the claimed cashbox having the rechargeable voltage source.

However, such a combination still fails to disclose or suggest a rechargeable voltage source that supplies power to electrical loads of the machine outside of the cashbox, as recited in the claims as amended.

Further, there is no suggestion to combine the references as proposed in the Office Action. For example, it is alleged in the Office Action that it would have “been obvious to have

used Cassidy's intelligent money cassette in Heide's money operated device for the purposes of securing cash in the cassette and providing tracking features." However, such motivation is flawed for several reasons. For example, assuming the Examiner intends the "intelligent money cassette" of Cassidy to be the container 20 and not the cassette 38 that is preloaded with money), there is no reason to track the container in the gaming machine as the container is secured inside of the gaming machine. Further, the hopper of the gaming machine is intended to dispense paper tokens 12 (cash).

Moreover, the container 20 of Cassidy having the battery would not be necessary in Heide because Heide discloses a power source in the housing that operates the gaming machine. Therefore, using the battery/container of Cassidy in the gaming machine of Heide would not only change the principle of operation of Heide, but would likely render the gaming machine inoperable due to a lack of power.

Finally, as there is no discernable problem with the power supply system in the gaming machine of Heide, the only motivation for proposing modification of the gaming machine to be powered by a power source in a cashbox is the impermissible use of hindsight.

Regarding the rejections of claims 3 and 14, the Examiner takes official notice "that it would have been obvious to place Cassidy's storage/transportation frames in the form of a station (18) on a vehicle in an armored truck." Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner that "Official notice without documentary evidence to support an examiner's conclusion is permissible only in some circumstances. While "official notice" may be relied on, these circumstances should be rare when an application is under final rejection or action under 37 CFR 1.113. Official notice unsupported by documentary evidence should only be taken by the examiner where the facts asserted to be well-known, or to be common knowledge in the art are capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well-known.

Moreover, if official notice is taken of a fact, unsupported by documentary evidence, the technical line of reasoning underlying a decision to take such notice must be clear and unmistakable. If such notice is taken, the basis for such reasoning must be set forth explicitly. The examiner must provide specific factual findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support his or her conclusion of common knowledge. See *Soli*, 317 F.2d at 946, 37 USPQ at 801; *Chevenard*, 139 F.2d at 713, 60 USPQ at 241. The applicant should be presented with the explicit basis on which the examiner regards the matter as subject to official notice so as

to adequately traverse the rejection in the next reply after the Office action in which the common knowledge statement was made.

If Applicant challenges a factual assertion as not properly officially noticed or not properly based upon common knowledge, the Examiner must support the finding with adequate evidence (MPEP §2144.03).

Regarding the rejection of claim 5 and 16, it is alleged that the sensor interface circuit 72 of Cassidy is a display. However, there is no such disclosure in Cassidy. Rather, Cassidy only describes the sensor interface circuit 72 as a microcontroller which includes analog to digital converters (col. 4, lines 31-34). There is nothing in Cassidy to indicate that the sensor interface circuit is a display.

Regarding the rejection of claims 8, 11 and 17, there is no disclosure or suggestion in either of Heidel or Cassidy of the claimed money-operated machine being a parking-ticket machine. Although claims 8, 11 and 17 are alleged to be rendered obvious by the combination of Heidel and Cassidy, the Office Action fails to point out any disclosure in the applied references or any other evidence that the claims are obvious over Heidel and Cassidy.

As the combination of references fails to render the rejected claims obvious, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 11 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,732,812 to Grainger et al. in view of US Patent 5,615,625 to Cassidy et al. (Cassidy). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Grainger relates to an electrical power control system for a parking meter. In Grainger, a battery 18 is located in a top region of the housing 12. A cashbox 27 is located at a bottom region of the housing. The cashbox 27 is connectable to the battery 18 via a switch S1 and power lines 20.1 (col. 3, lines 9-29; Figs. 1 and 2).

It is admitted in the Office Action that Grainger does not disclose or suggest a rechargeable voltage source in the cashbox. In an effort to overcome the admitted deficiency, it is alleged that one of ordinary skill in the art would have modified Grainger according to the teachings of Cassidy alleging that the battery in the container 20 corresponds to the claimed cashbox having the rechargeable voltage source.

However, such a combination still fails to disclose or suggest a rechargeable voltage source that supplies power to electrical loads of the machine outside of the cashbox, as recited in the claims as amended. Rather, in each of Cassidy and Grainger, the power sources power only electrical loads within the respective containers.

New Claim

None of the references whether considered alone or in combination disclose or suggest, a display configured to display at least a charge state of the voltage source, the display being arranged on the machine, as recited in new claim 18.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of the pending claims of this application is earnestly solicited.

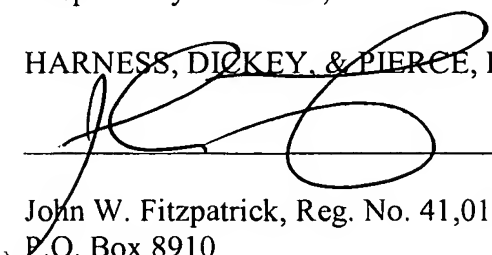
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Fitzpatrick at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNES, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



John W. Fitzpatrick, Reg. No. 41,018
P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

DJD/JWF/hcw